

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR PASCO AND PINELLAS COUNTIES, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2015-008 PA/PI-CIR

**RE: E-CIGARETTES**

The use of electronic cigarettes, also known as e-cigarettes, and other nicotine dispensing devices is increasing in public spaces. These battery-powered devices allow users to inhale vaporized nicotine, flavor, and other chemicals, without fire, smoke, ash, or carbon dioxide. While the devices do not create secondhand “smoke,” they do emit aerosols that may contain toxic metals or chemicals, which may be harmful to persons nearby.

In order to maintain the health, safety, and well-being of the officers, employees, and visitors in each of the Circuit’s courthouses, and to the extent e-cigarettes are not explicitly proscribed by the Florida Clean Indoor Air Act, it is necessary to prohibit the use of these products within the courthouses of this Circuit.

In accordance with Article V, section 2, Florida Constitution, Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, and § 43.26, Florida Statutes, it is

**ORDERED:**

1. For purposes of this Administrative Order, an “electronic cigarette” is any product that employs a battery, chemical, or mechanical means to produce an aerosol from any substance containing nicotine or other product or chemical, including but not limited to an electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, vaporizer, vape pen, or other similar device or product.
2. Any and all use of an electronic cigarette is prohibited within the courthouses of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, including use of an electronic cigarette to dispense chemicals or substances that do not contain nicotine. Affected areas include but are not limited to courtrooms, hearing rooms, judicial chambers, hallways, cafeterias, offices of court staff, witness rooms, juror assembly rooms, jury deliberation rooms, the offices of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, the offices of the State Attorney, the offices of the Public Defender, and areas utilized by the Sheriff’s Offices, including adjacent restrooms, break rooms, conference rooms, and reception areas.
3. Any and all use of an electronic cigarette is prohibited within 50 feet of all entrances to the courthouses of the Sixth Judicial Circuit. Notwithstanding this provision, e-cigarettes may be used in an area outside of the courthouse that the County has designated for smoking.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at Clearwater, Pinellas County, Florida this \_\_\_\_ day of February, 2015.

ORIGINAL SIGNED ON FEBRUARY 24, 2015  
BY J. THOMAS MCGRADY, CHIEF JUDGE

cc: All Judges  
The Honorable Bernie McCabe, State Attorney  
The Honorable Bob Dillinger, Public Defender  
The Honorable Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Pinellas County  
The Honorable Paula S. O'Neil, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Pasco County  
The Honorable Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Sheriff  
The Honorable Chris Nocco, Pasco County Sheriff  
Gay Inskip, Trial Courts Administrator  
Ngozi Acholonu, Assistant Regional Counsel  
Lillian Simon, Director of Administrative Services, Pasco County  
Myriam Irizarry, Chief Deputy Director, Pinellas County Clerk's Office  
Law Libraries, Pinellas and Pasco County  
Bar Associations, Pinellas and Pasco County